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Morning-Evening-Sunday.
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The Paper That Does Things

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OCTOBER 16, 1916.

A FOOL'S "FOOL'S PARADISE?"

Three iron and steel kings to date—Schwab, Farrell and Frick—dispute the assumption of Candidate Hughes that American supremacy in the world's steel supply is "temporary," or a "fool's paradise," or in any degree dependent upon war.

They look to the close of the war as creating a greater world market for American steel than war munitions afford. That the investing public backs their judgment is shown by the steady and continued rise in the values of industrial securities.

MUESTERBERG'S PEACE REPORT.

The report of American conditions sent to the German chancellor by Prof. Hugo Muensterberg of Harvard, and unintentionally returned and published, is of great interest to Americans for two reasons. It shows the artificial, alien inspiration of much American peace activity, and it shows the real trend of German-American sentiment.

Prof. Muensterberg reveals himself as a willing instrument of a widespread propaganda which the German government has been fostering in this country. With a view to stopping the war while Germany is still in position to dictate favorable terms. He speaks of his "main work" as writing articles favoring peace and urging President Wilson as mediator. "All this peace material naturally appears without my name." One naturally wonders how many other men occupying high places in American life have been pursuing the same stealthy course.

It is manifest that anything this nation might do at this time to end the struggle would be virtually an unneutral act, calculated to guarantee Germany the possession of her ill-gotten conquests, prevent chastisement for her crimes and rob the allies of the fruits of their anticipated victory. The allies, too, have shown that they would so regard any attempt on our part to interpose.

As for so-called hyphenated sentiment, the professor's report is illuminating and reassuring. He remarks regretfully that after making confidential inquiries in all the larger cities, he is "astonished at the uniformity of the reports" showing the waning power of pro-German feeling among Americans of German origin. Our Germans, he says, writing last May, are "accentuating their American tendencies." He finds that "the patriotic wave has swept all the weaker elements along with it." There has been a "most unexpected jump." If he were reviewing the situation today, he might have still more cause to lament the repudiation of the hyphen by the supposed hyphenates themselves.

The German language papers of this country will find his characterization of them a bitter pill to swallow. Along with a few erudite gentlemen who are heads of pro-German organizations, the German papers have professed to speak for a vast body of citizens. And Prof. Muensterberg, in this confidential letter to von Bethmann-Hollweg, says: "The German-speaking periodicals represent the small circles and factions only, and they have less support today (last May) than even two months ago."

The general public has sized them up in about the same way, but it is gratifying to have such competent corroboration.

THE TROOPS ON THE BORDER.

"Charges that the troops on the Mexican border are mistreated or starved are groundless"—thus emphatically stated Capt. W. A. Rosenfield of Rock Island, Ill., now at home on a thirty-day furlough from the camp at Brownsville, Texas.

Capt. Rosenfield is one of the leading republican chieftains of Illinois, but does not stand for the republican "dope" about the national guard. He continued his statement as follows:

"There is nothing to the charges that the troops have been mistreated or starved. They receive regular army rations—nothing more. They should have expected nothing more. But there were kicks and plenty of them."

"Protests came from the soldiers who in their lives back home were used to anything. They are the fellows who kicked. The soldiers who were accustomed to the better mode of living registered no protests with the rations set before them. They accepted the food, knowing army life does not provide the best of everything. They were satisfied."

But the soldiers being satisfied, and the republican campaigners and press agents being dissatisfied, is of course, a quite different matter. Furthermore, it is quite a habit of the republican party of being for the fellow who has been accustomed to demanding special consideration from the government, depending more upon protection for his livelihood, than upon his own personal energies; who constantly, at least quadruply kicks if Uncle Sam isn't constantly feeding him on a special privilege bottle.

THE ALLIES AND OUR NEUTRALITY.

Another bit of good sound sense, appropriately put, is the president's note to the allies with reference to their demand that belligerent submarines be not permitted to enter American ports. In what amounts to about so many words, the allies have been told that we have our own conception of neutrality, based upon long established customs, and to allow this belligerent and that to step in and tell us how to change that conception to suit their respective tastes, would forebode entanglements such as we are not courting.

That is the language of diplomacy. In the language of the street, it would be couched into a "mind your own business" sort of reprimand. We may not like the revival of submarine warfare, and especially when so near our coasts, but it being Germany's warfare we will deal with Germany as we see fit, as we understand the president's position, that too, without even the advice, say nothing of dictation from Germany's enemies. President Wilson refused to let Germany dictate to us how we should deal with Britain several months ago. In even more distinct terms he has now refused to let Britain and her allies tell us how we must deal with Germany. We are neither fighting the battles of Germany nor of the allies. Our neutrality is our own.

The president likewise rebukes the gall of Great Britain and her allies in proposing that we withdraw our submarines from the seas. We guess they are our seas quite as much as they are Britain's, or France's, or Russia's, or Japan's, or Italy's. If we get to messing around improperly and get our snouts punched, we will probably take our medicine, but it is up to the allies, and not to us, to see that, as long as we are minding our own business the punching is not done improperly. Britain can meddle with our mails, and interfere with our commerce—for a while—but we guess she had better take care how she meddles with our fighting craft. We know England well enough to know that she is just simply bullish. We know Germany well enough to know that her main trouble is the stringency of her situation and over-zealousness, and not knowing when to stop.

President Wilson has again scented American opinion quite right. The United States, least of all, is ready to take orders from Great Britain.

A PAGE FROM HISTORY.

The greatest boom in American railway stocks in years has followed the passage of the federal eight-hour law for railway trainmen. Thus American railway history repeats itself.

Railway organs, it will be remembered, made the same fight against safety couplers, electric headlights, and the prohibition of passes and rebates. They invoked heaven and earth and their political henchmen to fight all these wholesome and necessary changes. And increased prosperity followed every reform.

REPUBLICANS' APPEAL TO FARMER VOTE.

The Chicago Tribune—"the world's greatest newspaper,"—and Hughes' greatest supporter, in criticizing the Wilson administration in handling the troops on the Mexican border, says:

"Even the horses supplied often did not fit the harness."

This is the republican idea of the fitness of things.

Little acts like assassinating a president, imprisoning congress and closing the courts, such as Huerta performed in the interest of Wall St., Candidate Hughes can both recognize and pardon. But when the congress of the United States passes a law compelling railroad corporations which enjoy forty per cent increase in net earnings to give the workmen who produce these earnings an eight-hour day, then, indeed, we have an exhibition of "force" which appalls him because of its "abdication of moral authority."

Something new in the execution of justice was shown the other day in New York, when a blackmailer was let off with a mere sentence because he "pleaded guilty and thereby saved the people from a very disagreeable trial." If the people had been consulted about it, they probably have given him a heavier sentence for cheating them out of the testimony. The public has never seemed especially eager to be "saved from disagreeable trials."

Having attacked Sen. La Follette's seaman act, Candidate Hughes feels that he has evened things with the Wisconsin senator for supporting the administration eight-hour law and Underwood tariff and for attacking the Hughes platform and old guard control. It is evident that Hughes has kissed good-bye both the labor vote of the country and the electoral ballot of formerly republican Wisconsin.

The New York Central, with its sixty-eight per cent increase of net earnings for 1916, is not helping out its political attorney, Candidate Hughes, with his "temporary" prosperity argument, when it places its order for two hundred and fifty locomotives for delivery in the fourth quarter of 1917. That is one year too far ahead to save Hughes and his argument.

Having first expurgated and then canned their movie films, the republican national committee should now transmute or somehow inject into the speeches of its standard bearer some sort of an intelligent constructive program that will appeal to a thinking and intelligent electorate.

There is one political subject which Mr. Hughes must admit requires no investigation—namely, the class of interests for which he stands. Messrs. Penrose and Smoot are his models for statesmanship, Crane and Hitchcock are his political managers, and Taft and Estabrook are his campaign speaking companions.

It may be true, as the war dispatches aver, that a Canadian private in France attacked the German army all by himself, killed and wounded many Germans and captured sixty-two prisoners and two hundred and fifty yards of trenches. But it sounds to us like a movie stunt.

We were ready to admit the Hughes-Fairbanks campaign looked like thirty cents; but now the republican national committee admits the whole thing can be got on a riffer "like those selling for ten cents."

If, as the fire underwriters insist, the American people are losing \$200,000,000 a year through incendiary fires, it would pay to spend a few millions in rounding up the fire bugs.

The prohibition candidate for president says he's going to get 1,500,000 votes this year. Is that a sample of dry humor?

The republican farmers of Colorado are reported to be growing bearded wheat. Mr. Hughes, please note,

Shows How Wilson Administration Has Brought Prosperity

NEW YORK, Oct. 15.—Sincerity of purpose, directed toward the advancement of the common weal, can come out of the blighting fires of Wall street, any skepticism to the contrary notwithstanding. A notable case of such rise from the sordid maelstrom of money to the realms of altruistic democracy is that of C. M. Bergstresser, founder of the Wall Street Journal, and for many years, editor of that publication.

A most interesting personality has Mr. Bergstresser, and none is more capable than he to speak with truth and full knowledge of that republican den of predatory privilege—Wall street.

A republican all his life, until the present campaign issues were raised, Mr. Bergstresser has become one of the staunchest supporters of President Wilson. Why? Let him tell.

"Because," Mr. Bergstresser said yesterday in an interview, "President Wilson stands for an ideal democracy; because he has the courage of a true leader, to work for the benefit of all the people of this country all the time, rather than to allow the predatory special interests to use the mechanism of government for picking the pockets of the nation."

As he said this, Mr. Bergstresser's manner breathed the sincerity of his convictions. He is a calm, though forceful, man of middle life, who has earned his spurs in the money mart, and has retired from it. And then he told an interesting story about himself. It was that he had just returned to New York from a three months' automobile tour, entirely at his own initiative, of the six New England states and the northern part of the Empire state, carrying the Wilson doctrine of democracy to the farmer at his plow, to the smith at his wayside forge, to the mill worker at his shuttle.

With Mrs. Bergstresser and his daughter, he has covered 4,000 miles. And what he says here is the message of enlightenment that he carried into the byways:

A Great President.

"Why am I, a lifelong republican, now devoting all of my efforts for the re-election of Woodrow Wilson? Because he is the greatest president, insofar as constructive legislation for the benefit of the whole nation goes, that ever has sat in the white house. For every month of his incumbency, at least one constructive measure has been enacted by congress. Can one do better than that?"

"He has defeated the aristocracy of wealth and fashion—for which Wall street, of course, cannot forgive him. He has driven the trust lobbies out of Washington, destroyed the profitable business of moulding laws to make rich men richer, has caused the enactment of measures that gives to labor—the bone and sinew of the country—the opportunity to share in the unprecedented prosperity that his wise guidance has brought to all who have a desire to work. The good old days of high-handed robbery, at the expense of the public, have gone—let us hope for all time—and, of course, Wall street doesn't like the change."

"One measure enacted by the Wilson administration that appeals to me as so vital to the small business man throughout the country, and so has proved itself, is the federal reserve act. It has stimulated small business enterprises in all parts of the country, and has equalized the interest rate everywhere."

Act Stimulated Business.

"Today, the business man anywhere can borrow money at from four to six percent. Before this act was in effect, the same money had to pay twice that amount, and then was not certain of his accommodations. I claim that the bank reserve act would have stimulated business and many small manufacturing enterprises all over the country, without the European war."

"Heretofore, the reserves of the country never had been properly mobilized, and drifted into the hands of Wall street, where they have been under the control of designing men. With the use of those reserves, the money of the country could be withheld easily from the legitimate demands of business, and used for the purpose of Wall street. Today, because of our 12 reserve banks, the business man may count on the reserves of his section, wherever he may be located. The bank reserve act will save us from any financial panic, at any time, because the reserves of the nation now are available to all the people."

"What the reserve act has done for business in general, the rural credits measure has done for the farmer, enabling him to borrow money at honest rates from his home bank, vastly improving his working conditions, and stimulating the greater production of crops."

Income Tax Beneficial.

"Also, I am grateful to President Wilson for giving the country the income tax measure, which places the burden of expense of government on the shoulders of those best able to bear it, and who require the greatest protection of the government. It is through the income tax measure that Mr. Wilson, in large part, has shown to the people that he is in sympathy with the struggle of the masses to establish a home equitable basis of taxation."

"I thank Wilson, too, for keeping us out of war. And he has done it, in my opinion, by a patient diplomacy that has cost the nation nothing in honor, and has preserved thousands of lives and billions of dollars. He has given us, indeed, the best definition of democracy in classic language that this country ever has known. And in his hands we know that the democracy is safe."

"The republican party has outlived its usefulness. It did the country a great service in the emancipation

THE MELTING POT

Conducted by Stuart H. Carroll

AUTHORITY.

The world is full of many paths confusingly crisscrossed. The hopeful pilgrim often feels that he is slightly lost. He sounds the nervous signal of discomfort and distress: "I wake the ether echoes with his frantic S. O. S.; And soon from all directions he can hear the cheerful shout: "Come, brother pilgrim, follow me and I will lead you out."

It's not a weighty matter that the saviors of the race have each a special route to future happiness and grace. Perhaps there is an error in their optimistic dope; Perhaps there is no ground for all their arguments of hope; But since the race requires a reason for its faith and song, The harbingers of paradise must give it them strong.

A fig for paltry science with its bashful hems and haws— Too frequently its treatises betray the awkward pause. We yearn for sure authority infallible and tall, Which never once confesses that it doesn't know it all. We like to lean upon the guy who has the nerve to say: "Just follow me, my brother, and you cannot lose the way!"

A. B. B.

NOW, WILL WE BE GOOD?

Ed. M. P.— I hereby take life, liberty and happiness to question your qualification as editor of the Melting Pot. I do so because during the past week or more you have been filling the pot with matter that is not original with you. You have filled it up with clipped matter from New York papers. Aren't you original enough to compose humorous verse or prose of your own? If not why let me know and I might collaborate with you on something. I believe with my command of English and knowledge of many phases of life you and I could collaborate very well. As a collaborator I challenge the world. I would want to do all the writing but would let you use your name in connection with mine. Of course it must be understood that my name would be mentioned first in the partnership. I would be the senior member of the firm of collaborators. You could be my hiring, slave or office boy, just as you wish. You may choose your own title.

I will permit you to make suggestions but will not promise to use them. I could not do that in light of my temperamental nature. I am very temperamental. So if your suggestions were actually brilliant I would not use them, because my temperamental nature would rebel at the thought of you suggesting something to me that would be brilliant. It would call me exceedingly much to be forced to have something in the Melting Pot that is really brilliant and then give you the credit for it. No, that cannot be. So, you see how really useless it would be for you to give birth to a really brilliant idea.

However, and yet, it would also be equally as futile for you to suggest non-brilliant ideas. It is unnecessary to say that they would not find entrance to a Melting Pot in which I collaborate. So you see in what a peculiar situation you are in. It would be parallel to that which a certain vulgar man recently called a Heluvalix.

It simmers down to this: I must collaborate alone or not at all. You will be merely a satellite, a parasite. It is only one of the quaint vagaries of my temperamental mind. It gives me much pleasure to address you in this manner and hope you are the same.—Pippin.

YES, WE WILL BE GOOD.

Dear Pippin:— Your redundant and verbose misadventure, as printed above, proved somewhat of a shock to us. After a first perusal we didn't intend to publish

The Public Pulse

Comments for this column may be signed anonymously but must be accompanied by the name of the writer to insure good faith. No responsibility for facts or sentiments expressed is assumed. Honest discussion of public questions is invited, but with the right reserved to delete "obscene" and "indecent" matter. The column is free. But, be reasonable.

SECRETARY REDFIELD IN PERSONAL LETTER OUTLINES FOREIGN CLAIMS.

Editor News-Times:— Answering your request of recent date, it gives me pleasure to take advantage of your courtesy to lay before you some suggestions based upon certain statements made by Mr. Charles E. Hughes in an address at Baltimore. In this speech he said:

"During the past three and a half years one would suppose that any American who went to foreign lands to advance American industry and commerce was presumably a bad fellow who had lost his rights."

Every manufacturer and business man acquainted with export trade knows that this statement is incorrect and that the inferences normally to be drawn from it are wholly unjust. It is incredible that an upright man like Mr. Hughes should be capable of making such a statement if he were familiar with the facts. The only excuse for it lies in his ignorance.

In the first place, the expenditures of the department of commerce for the promotion of our foreign trade abroad are, under the democratic administration more than five times greater than they were under the republican administration; that an em-

tion act; but since that day, it has built an aristocracy of wealth and fashion, and is following too much the principle of divine right to govern by a selected few.

"For the public benefit such a structure as the republican party has come to be should be destroyed."

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have spent much of every day these three years past in pushing forward our foreign trade and in promoting the establishment of American enterprises abroad, to see one who seems quite unfamiliar with the actual work progressing talks as if it did not exist and as if the spirit that gave it rise and power was wanting. It certainly is true that the legitimate American promoter and investor has found, under the Wilson administration, a sympathetic and a helping hand. I would confidently leave the record to the judgment of any three business men familiar with foreign trade, without regard to their party convictions.

Washington, Oct. 11.

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD,
Secretary of the Department of Commerce.